

ARTICLE IV

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Section 1. Form of Government: The municipal government provided by this Charter shall be known as the "Council-Manager" government. Pursuant to the provisions of, and subject only to the limitations imposed by the State Constitution, the State laws and this Charter, all powers of the municipal government shall be vested in an elected governing body to be known as the "City Council". The City Council shall be composed of a Mayor and eight (8) other Council members. Five (5) of the Council members shall represent "Single Member Districts", such Districts being numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively. Three (3) of the Council members shall represent the City at large from Districts numbered 6, 7 and 8, respectively. No legally filed candidate for an office on the City Council may file for any other office on the City Council. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, November 2, 1993)

Elsewhere in this Charter, all references to "City Commission", "Commission", "Board of Commissioners", "Commissioner" and "City Commissioners" be and they are amended to read "City Council", "Council", "City Council", "Councilman", "City Councilman", respectively. References in this Charter to the male gender shall include females, and references to the female gender shall include males. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, April 5, 1980)

The provisions of Article IV, Section 1, regarding "Single Member Districts" shall become effective upon the expiration of the two year term of office of the Mayor and City Council members serving at the time this ordinance is enacted. Therefore, Council members and the Mayor shall serve in an at-large capacity for the remainder of their current term of office and until their successor has been elected. At the first general election for City offices following the adoption of this amendment, the offices of Districts 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall appear on the ballot. The offices of Districts 1 and 2 shall be "Single Member Districts", and the offices of Districts 6 and 7 shall be at-large. The offices of the Mayor and Districts 3, 4, 5 and 8 shall be at-large until the general election for City offices is held on the first Saturday in May of 1995. At that time, the offices of Districts 3, 4 and 5 shall appear on the ballot as "Single Member Districts" and the offices of Mayor and District 8 shall be elected at large. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, November 2, 1993)

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Prior to the first day for filing for the first City Council election after adoption of this amendment, the City Council shall divide the City into five (5) contiguous and compact Single Member Districts along voting precinct lines apportioned according to the population of the city as ascertained by the United States Census of 1990, if it has been published, or by any other means allowed by State or Federal law, if it has not been published, and shall number the Districts 1 through 5, respectively. Thereafter, the City Council shall, after the publication of each Decennial United States Census, and within one (1) year thereof, reapportion the Single Member Districts along voting precinct lines to contain as nearly equal and proportionate population as possible according to the population of the City as ascertained by that Census. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, November 2, 1993)

Section 2. Elective Officers; Run-off : The Mayor and the City Council members in Districts 6, 7 and 8 shall be elected from the City at large by a majority vote of the qualified voters at an election held for that purpose. The City Council members in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall be elected from their respective Districts at an election held for that purpose. In the event no candidate for the office of Mayor or Council member shall receive a majority of the votes cast for said office, a run-off election shall be held not earlier than the 10th or later than the 30th day after the date the final canvass of the regular election is completed, at which time the names of the two candidates having the greatest number of votes in the regular election shall be placed on the ballot. Such run-off election shall be conducted in the same manner as a regular election. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, May 7, 1996)

Section 3. Qualifications of Officers: The Mayor and each Council Member shall have such qualifications as are specified by State law for such municipal officers, and shall not be indebted to the City, shall not hold any other public office of emolument, shall not be interested in the profits or emoluments of any contract, job, work or service for the City, or interested in the sale to the City of any supplies, equipment, material or articles purchased and shall not, during the current term of office, enter a plea of guilty to a felony or be convicted in a trial court of a felony. Any members of the City Council who shall, after being elected thereto, cease to possess any of the qualifications herein required, shall forfeit forthwith his

office, and any such contract in which such officer is or may become interested shall be void. Any member of the City Council who shall file for any other public office or for another place or position on the City Council at a time when he has more than one (1) year to serve on his current term shall, upon such filing, forthwith forfeit his office.

The Council members elected to Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 shall, in addition to all other requirements, reside and be registered to vote within the boundaries of their respective Districts at the time of filing for the election. The Mayor and Council members elected to Districts 6, 7 and 8 shall, in addition to all other requirements, reside and be registered to vote within the boundaries of the City of Arlington at the time of filing for the election. The Mayor and all Council members shall continue to reside in the City of Arlington during their term of office. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, May 7, 1996)

Section 4. Terms of Office: All elective officers, under this Charter, shall serve, after the first election as herein provided for, the term of two years, and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

Section 5. Vacancies in the Office of Mayor or Council Member: In the event there remains more than two hundred seventy (270) days in the unexpired term of the office vacated, the vacancy shall be filled by an election to be ordered by the City Council, for the unexpired term of said vacated office. Said two hundred seventy (270) day period shall be computed from the date the office becomes legally vacated, the date upon which the Council by resolution declares such office vacant, or the date the Council accepts the resignation for such office, as may be applicable in the particular situation. Resignations of officers shall be made to the City Council in writing, subject to the approval and acceptance of the City Council, but the persons resigning may be required to continue in their offices until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. Nothing contained in this Charter shall be construed to authorize the City Council to fill a Council vacancy by appointment. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, August 14, 1990)

Section 6. Compensation: Beginning October 1, 1980, and thereafter, the Mayor shall receive a compensation of

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\$250.00 per month, and each Council member shall receive a compensation of \$200.00 per month, and all appointive officers of the City Council, except where otherwise provided by law, shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the City Council. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the reimbursement of actual official City business expenses of the Mayor and City Council where same are provided in the annual City Budget. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, April 5, 1980)

Section 7. Appointive Officers: There shall be appointed by a majority of the City Council, on the nomination of the Mayor or any member of the City Council, a City Manager, a Municipal Judge or Judges, a City Health Officer, a City Attorney, and other officers as may be required by State Constitution or State law, any of whom may be removed by a like majority vote of the said City Council at the pleasure of the City Council. The duties of such officers shall be as prescribed by State law, or ordinance or direction of the City Council not in conflict therewith. The compensation of such offices shall be set by the City Council. Such appointive officers shall appoint and remove any officer or employee placed under his authority and control. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, April 7, 1984)

Section 8. Qualifications of Appointive Officers: Officers appointed by the City Council shall possess such qualifications as may be prescribed by State Constitution or law, or as prescribed by ordinance not in direct conflict therewith. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, April 5, 1980)

Section 9. Municipal Court: There shall be a municipal court comprised of as many divisions as there are judges with such authority as provided by law. One of such judges shall be known as the Presiding Judge of the Municipal Court. The remainder of such judges shall be known as Associate Municipal Court Judges. There shall be a clerk or clerks of said court and its divisions, with such deputies as may be created or provided by ordinance by the City Council. The clerk or clerks of said court and the deputies thereof shall have the power to administer oaths and affidavits, make certificates, affix the seal of said court thereto, and perform all other acts of a court clerk as may be provided by law. The clerk or clerks and deputies of said court shall be appointed and removed by the City Manager. (Adopted by Charter Amendment, May 10, 1988)